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US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor
Remarks at Signing of IPR Agreement
Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation
March 11, 1995
Beijing, China

I would like to thank Minister Wu Yi and her colleagues for their commitment and their creativity which, in large measure, contributed to the success of this agreement. A sign of a good agreement is when both sides are winners, and I think that is clearly the case in this agreement on intellectual property.

Intellectual property-based industries not only represent our fastest growing industries, but they are the connecting tissue that binds us together as a world, and they will be our most important industries of the future.

In addition to enforcement and technical assistance and technical cooperation, market access for our audio-visual and computer software companies is a critical aspect of the success of this agreement. To that end, and at the invitation of the Chinese government, which we appreciate, the companies traveling with me represented here today spent the day discussing commercial opportunities with their Chinese colleagues.

As a demonstration of our belief in this agreement, I've come to China at President Clinton's request, and at Madame Wu Yi's invitation, with a large government and industry delegation to formally launch implementation of this agreement. I have brought with me representatives of every IPR Intellectual Property Rights enforcement-related agency in the entire United States Government: the Customs Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Justice and the Department of Commerce. They began discussions of their extensive training and assistance programs with their Chinese counterparts immediately upon their arrival.

The Customs Department, for instance, did not come empty-handed, Madame Wu Yi. They brought \$500,000 in aid provided by the Asian Development Bank to support important training and advisory activities. U.S. Customs agents will work closely with their Chinese counterparts as they implement China's new custom regulations to protect intellectual property. The Patent and Trademark Office will offer detailed programs in copyright, trademark and patent areas. Identification of IPR infringement must be followed by prosecution of violators by the Chinese government to be effective. In that regard, the Justice Department will be quite helpful. The Department of Commerce and the Federal

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Bureau of Investigation have also began detailed discussions with their Chinese counterparts today, as well.

As I said this afternoon, when I spoke to students at the University of Business and International Economics, in the 6th century Chinese engineers perfected a new iron link technology for building suspension bridges across rivers and streams. Fourteen centuries later, we're now building a new generation of bridges on the edge of a new millennium constructed of mutual trust and shared responsibility. These bridges will connect the great economies of the world for the benefit of our citizens. The IPR agreement is a hopeful sign of what we can achieve when we work together to resolve difficult problems.

Thank you again.